(a) when the work to upgrade Guwahati Airport as international airport will be completed;

(b) whether the Ministry have any plan to link Guwahati with Delhi everyday in a week by Indian Airlines;

(c) whether Indian Airlines flights do not connect Jorhat, Dibrugar, Silchar and Tejpur from Guwahati; and

(d) whether Government propose to take steps connecting Guwahati to these places by Indian Airlines shortly?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Airports Authority of India has plans to upgrade Guwahati Airport to international standards during the IXth Five Year Plan period.

(b) to (d) Indian Airlines operates 5 flights a week on Delhi Guwahati route. Indian Airlines was earlier operating services between Guwahati to Jorhat, Dibrugarh, Silchar and Tezpur. These services have been withdrawn because of poor passenger load. Because of aircraft capacity constraints, Indian Airlines has at present no plans to operate any new services.

Impact of U.S. sanctions on aircraft procurement

175. SHRI BANGARU LAXMAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether imposition of sanctions against India by U.S. and other big countries has hit the contemplated procurement of aircraft for augmenting the fleet of the national airlines; and

(b) if so, the details of proposals for purchase of aircraft comtemplated and how far the procurement is hampered by the imposition of sanctions?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, expansion' renewal of fleet by the two airlines is a continuing exercise and depends on various factors, the more important one being the resources of the airlines, traffic requirements, suitability of the aircraft type and viability of operations on various sectors/routes.

Raids of the residence of Executive of Reliance Industries

176. PROF. A. LAKSHMISAGAR: SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether during raids conducted recently at the residence of an Executive of the Reliance Industreis Ltd. certain confidential and secret nature of documents relating to the Budget and disinvestment of Public Units were seized;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether any invetigations into the leakage of these documents have been made by the Government; and

(d) if so, what is the outcome thereof and what action has been taken by the Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHA-NAN): (a) to (d) The search at the residence of the Executive of the Reliance Industries Ltd. was not conducted by any agency under the administrative control of the Ministry of Finance.

Pledging of Bogus Kisan Vikas Patra in Banks in Delhi

177. SHRI YERRA NARAYANAS WAMY: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cases of frauds in Nationalised Banks involving pledging of bogus "Kisan Vikas Patras" have been detected in Delhi recently;

(b) if so, the officers, employees and outsiders and . amount involved in each case, branch-wise and Bank-wise; and

(c) the number of cases so far registered and number of those still being investigated by the CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHA-NAN)4 (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

आयकर और सीमा शुल्क कर्मचारियों द्वारा हड़ताल

178.**श्री मुनव्वहर हसन**: क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) आयकर और सीमा शुल्क कर्मचारियों द्वारा देशव्यापी हड़ताल के क्या कारण हैं;

(ख) क्या सरकार और संघ के बीच कोई समझौता हो गया हैं;

(ग) यदि हां,तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या हैं;

(घ) इस हड़ताल की वजह से कुल कितनी राजस्व हानि हुई हैं;और

(ड़) सरकार भविष्य में ऐसी हड़ताल की रोकथाम के लिए और राजस्व की हानि की पूर्ति के लिए क्या-क्या कदम उठाने जा रही हैं?

वित्त मंत्रालय (बैंकिग,राजस्व तथा बीमा में राज्य मंत्री (श्री कादम्बूर एम.आर.जनार्दनन): (क) आयकर,सीमा शुल्क और केन्द्रीय उत्पाद शुल्क के समूह "ख" और "ग" के कार्यकारी अधिकारी बेहतर वेतनमानों और सेवा शर्तो में कुछ सुधार के लिए अपनी मांगों के समर्थन में दिनांक 10.11.98 से 12.11.98 तक हड़ताल पर गए थे।

(ख) जी,नहीं।

(ग) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

(घ) शून्य।

(ड़) सद् भावनापूर्ण और सकारात्मक कार्यकारी संबंध बनाने के उद्देश्य से कर्मचारियों के संघों के प्रतिनिधियों के साथ निरंतर बातचीत की जा रही हैं।

Incentives to the PAN Holders

179. SHRI RAGHAVJI:
PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some" incentives were announced at the time of announcing the Permanent Account Number (PAN) Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether these incentives have been extended to the PAN holdres; and

(d) whether those who could not apply for PAN by 31st October, 1998 can apply for the same now, and if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (BANKING, REVENUE AND INSURANCE) (SHRI KADAMBUR M.R. JANARTHA-NAN): (a) and (b) The Government had announced to introduce a scheme called 'SAMMAN' to demonstrate society's recognition of the important contribution made by tax payers to the national cause. The scheme would outline facilities and recognition to be conferred on the tax payers. A Committee was set up to give a concrete shape to the Samman scheme. The Committee has since submitted its report for the consideration of the Government.

(c) The incentives propsoed in the report of the Committee after they are accepted and finalised by the Government shall be availed by the taxpayers who would also be PAN holders as taxpayers are statutorily required to apply for PAN.

(d) Tax payers who were required to file the application for allotment of PAN by a specified date and have not done so can file the application later on.

मूडी इन्वेस्टर सर्विसेज़ का भारत की विकास दर संबंधी मूल्यांकर

180.**श्री बरजिन्दर सिंह**:

श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया:

क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या अमेरिका स्थित मूडी इन्वेस्टर सर्विसेज़ ने मूल्यांकन किया है कि वर्ष 1998-99 के दौरान भारत में वार्षिक विकास दर चार प्रतिशत के आसपास होगी ;

(ख) यदि हां,तो सरकार ने मूडी इन्वेस्टर सर्विसेज़ की टिप्पणी पर विचार करके तथ्यों का पता लगाया है ;